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SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 21, 1953

Jean Monnet came to the house this morning. We went over in considerable detail (1) the investment program of CSC, (2) the Saar issue, and (3) the Political Community. He told me that the MRP and the Socialists are in agreement on the resolution which should close the consideration by the Parliament of foreign affairs. However, Bidault's illness last night during his speech has introduced an element into this debate of which one cannot now foresee the consequences. It has been announced that he will participate in it when it resumes on Tuesday next and will go to The Hague on Saturday.

At noon E. and I were taken by Robert de Billy to see 45, Rue d'Auteuil. This very beautiful 18th Century house was occupied when I first came to Paris by the Duc de Camastra, who sold it later to Eugène de Rothschild. Eugène's wife Kitty, whom I knew, was an American and had great taste. She and her husband left France in 1940 and never returned. She died some years ago in the United States, where he still resides. The house was occupied during the war by the Germans and afterwards the Rothschilds sold it to a Frenchman who has now offered it for sale, never having used it himself. It is amazing in this crowded quarter to find an 18th Century house with the finest panelling and floors imaginable, beautiful mantlepieces and, as regards the interior, in good condition, with a garden that in extent is almost 2-1/2 acres and is perhaps larger than that of the Hotel Matignon. The emblems on the top of the house are terra cotta done by the famous sculptor Coustou, whose works were also scattered around the garden -- many of them have been badly damaged. I assume that the property will be broken up for real estate speculation. It is eminently suited for the purposes of an Embassy.

We went down for a short time this afternoon to Versailles.

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